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### Holland City News, Volume 8, Number 43: December 6, 1879

Holland City News

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# HOLLAND CITY NEWS.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 43.

HOLLAND, MICH., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1879.

WHOLE NO. 407.

## The Holland City News.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,  
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT  
HOLLAND CITY, MICHIGAN.  
OFFICE: VAN LANDEGEND'S BLOCK.

OTTO J. DOESBURG,  
Editor and Publisher.

**Terms of Subscription:**  
\$1.50 per year if paid in advance; \$1.75 if  
paid at three months, and \$2.00 if  
paid at six months.

JOB PRINTING PROMPTLY AND NEATLY DONE.

### TERMS OF ADVERTISING:

One square of ten lines, (nonpareil,) 75 cents  
first insertion, and 25 cents for each subse-  
quent insertion for any period under three  
months.

	3 M.	6 M.	1 Y.
1 Square	3.50	5.00	8.00
2 "	5.00	8.00	10.00
3 "	8.00	10.00	17.00
4 Column	10.00	17.00	25.00
5 "	17.00	25.00	40.00
6 "	25.00	40.00	65.00

Yearly advertisers have the privilege of three  
changes.  
Business Cards in City Directory, not over three  
lines, \$2.00 per annum.

Notices of Births, Marriages, and Deaths pub-  
lished without charge for subscribers.

An X before the Subscriber's name will denote  
the expiration of the Subscription. Two X's sig-  
nify that no paper will be continued after date.

All advertising bills collectable quarterly.

## Rail Roads.

### Chicago & West Michigan R. R.

Taken Effect, Sunday, Nov. 9, 1879.

Trains.	Arrive at Holland.	Leave Holland.
Grand Rapids.	11.55 a. m.	1.40 a. m.
" "	10.00 p. m.	3.30 p. m.
Muskegon, Pentwater & Big Rapids.	5.35 p. m.	5.25 a. m.
" "	10.30 "	3.35 p. m.
" "	9.55 p. m.	8.20 a. m.
New Buffalo & Chicago.	1.30 a. m.	12.00 m.
" "	7.20 "	6.00 a. m.
" "	3.25 p. m.	10.15 p. m.
" "	7.40 "	

\* Mixed trains.  
\* Daily except Sunday and Monday.  
\* Daily except Saturday.  
\* Monday only.  
All other trains daily except Sun. & M.  
All trains on this road, will be run by Chicago  
time which is 20 minutes later than Columbus  
time.

### Grand Haven Rail Road.

Taken Effect, Monday, Dec. 1, 1879.

Going North.	STATIONS.	Going South.
No. 4. No. 2.		No. 3. No. 1.
p. m. a. m.		a. m. p. m.
9.25 12.20	Muskegon.	6.25 3.05
8.45 11.47	Ferryburg.	7.20 3.35
7.55 11.42	Grand Haven.	7.45 3.40
7.05 11.12	Pigcon.	8.40 4.06
5.55 10.44	Holland.	9.55 4.35
5.25 10.25	Fillmore.	10.25 4.55
4.05 9.35	Allegan.	11.40 5.45

FRED. H. MAY, Manager.  
E. C. LEAVENWORTH, Gen'l Freight Agent.  
W. BAUMGARTEL, Agent.  
Holland, Mich.  
Close connections made at Allegan with G. R. &  
R. R. and L. S. & M. S. for Plainwell, Kalama-  
zoo Ft. Wayne, Cleveland, &c., &c.

## Business Directory.

### Attorneys.

HOWARD, M. D., Claim Agent, Attorney and  
Notary Public; River street.

MCBRIDE, P. H., Attorney and Counselor at  
Law, and Proctor in Admiralty. No. 11  
River street.

PARKS, W. H., Attorney and Counselor at Law,  
corner of River and Eighth streets.

TEN EYCK, J., Attorney at Law and Collecting  
Agent, Office in Kenyon & Van Putten's bank  
Eighty street.

### Banking and Exchange.

VAN PUTTEN JACOB, Banking and Col-  
lecting, Drafts bought and sold; Eighth  
street.

### Barbers.

DE GROOT, L. Barber. Hair cutting, shaving,  
shampooing, hair-dyeing, etc., done at rea-  
sonable rates. Barber shop next door to the  
City Hotel.

### Commission Merchant.

BEACH BROS., Commission Merchants, and  
dealers in Grain, Flour and Produce. High-  
est market price paid for wheat. Office in Brick  
store cor. Eighth & Fish streets, Holland, Mich. 17

### Dentist.

GEE, D. M., Dental Surgeon; residence and  
office No. 42 Ninth street, next door to the  
First Reformed Church.

### Drugs and Medicines.

DOESBURG, J. O., Dealer in Drugs and Medi-  
cines, Paints and Oils, Brushes, &c. Physi-  
cian's prescriptions carefully put up; Eighth st.

MEENGES, D. R., Drug Store. Fine Drugs, Medi-  
cines, Fancy Goods, Toilet Articles and Per-  
fumeries. River street.

VAN PUTTEN, Wm., Dealer in Drugs, Medi-  
cines, Paints, Oils, etc.; Proprietor of Dr.  
W. VAN DEN BERG'S Family Medicine; Eighth St.

WALSH HEBER, Druggist & Pharmacist; a  
full stock of goods pertaining to the busi-  
ness.

### Furniture.

MEYER, H. & CO., Dealers in all kinds of Fur-  
niture, Carpets, Wall Paper, Toys, Coffins,  
Picture Frames, etc.; River street.

### General Dealers.

VAN PUTTEN G., General Dealers, in Dry  
Goods, Groceries, Crockery, Hats and Caps,  
Flour, Provisions, etc.; River st.

### Livery and Sale Stables.

BOONE H., Livery and Sale Stable. Office  
and barn on Market street. Everything first-  
class.

NIBBELINK, J. H., Livery and Sale Stable;  
Office of Daily Stage Line to Saugatuck, 9th  
street, near Market.

### Meat Market.

BOONE, C., Wholesale Dealer in all kinds of  
Meat. Pays the highest price for cattle.  
Zeeland, Ottawa Co., Mich. 2-ly

BUTKAU & VAN ZOEREN, New Meat Mar-  
ket, near corner Eighth and Fish Street. All  
kinds of sausages constantly on hand.

KUITE, J., Dealer in all kinds of meats and  
vegetables; Meat Market on 8th street.

VAN DER HAAR, H., Dealer in Fresh, Salt,  
and Smoked Meats and Vegetables; paper  
and twine; 8th street.

### Manufactories, Mills, Shops, Etc.

HEALD, R. E., Manufacturer of and Dealer in  
Agricultural Implements; commission agent  
for Mowing Machines; cor. 10th & River street.

PAUELS, VAN PUTTEN & CO., Proprietors  
of Plumber Mills; (Steam Saw and Flour  
Mills;) near foot of 8th street.

WILMS, P. H., Manufacturer of Wooden, and  
Iron and Wood combination Pumps. Cor.  
10th and River streets.

### Notary Publics.

POST, HENRY D., Real Estate and Insurance  
Agent, Notary Public and Conveyancer; Col-  
lections made in Holland and vicinity.

VAN SCHELVEN, G., Justice of the Peace,  
Notary Public, Conveyancer, etc. Office,  
Van Landegend's Block.

### Physicians.

ASH, H. L., Surgeon, Physician and Accouch-  
eur. Office at his residence, Oversel, Mich.

LEDEBOER, F. S., City Physician and Surgeon;  
office at residence, on Eighth street, near  
Chi. & M. L. S. R. R. crossing.

MC CULLOCH THOS., Physician, Surgeon and  
Accoucheur. Office, Van Putten's Drug Store,  
Holland, Michigan.

SCHOUTEN, R. A., Physician and Surgeon;  
office at the First Ward Drug Store, Eighth  
Street.

SCHOUTEN, F. J., Physician and Accouch-  
eur. Office at Dr. Schouten's drug store, Eighth  
street.

WANTING, A. G., Physician and Surgeon;  
office at Graafschap Village, Allegan county,  
Mich. Office hours from 10 to 12 A. M. 26-ly.

BEST, R. B., Physician and Surgeon, Zeeland,  
Mich. Office at De Kruif's drug-store.  
28-ly.

### Photographer.

HIGGINS, B. P., the leading Photographer. Gal-  
lery opposite this office.

### Saddlers.

VANPELL, H., Manufacturer of and dealer in  
Harness, Trunks, Saddles and Whips;  
Eighth street.

### Tobacco and Cigars.

THE ROLLER, G. J., General dealer in Tobacco,  
Cigars, Snuff, Pipes, etc.; Eighth street.

### Watches and Jewelry.

JOSLIN & BREYMAN, Watchmakers, Jewelers,  
and dealers in Fancy Goods; Corner of Mar-  
ket and Eighth Street.

### Societies.

I. O. of O. F.  
HOLLAND City Lodge, No. 192, Independent Order  
of Odd Fellows, holds its regular meetings at Odd  
Fellow's Hall, Holland Mich., on Tuesday Evening  
of each week.  
Visiting brothers are cordially invited.  
M. HARRINGTON, N. G.

WILL H. ROGERS, R. S.

### F. & A. M.

A REGULAR Communication of UNITY LODGE,  
No. 191, F. & A. M., will be held at Masonic Hall,  
Holland, Mich., on Wednesday evening, Dec.  
24, at 7 o'clock, sharp.

OTTO BREYMAN, W. M.

W. H. JOSLIN, Sec'y.

## Special Notices.

A COMPLETE assortment of Spectacles  
to suit the different qualities and ages of  
sight, just received, at  
J. O. DOESBURG'S DRUG STORE.

A FRESH supply of all kinds of candy  
just received at L. T. KANTERS.

## A Remarkable Result.

It makes no difference how many Physi-  
cians, or how much medicine you have  
tried, it is now an established fact that  
German Syrup is the only remedy which  
has given complete satisfaction in severe  
cases of Lung Diseases. It is true there  
are yet thousands of persons who are pre-  
disposed to Throat and Lung Affections,  
Consumption, Hemorrhages, Asthma, Se-  
vere Colds settled on the Breast, Pneu-  
monia, Whooping Cough, &c., who have  
no personal knowledge of Boschee's Ger-  
man Syrup. To such we would say that  
50,000 dozen were sold last year without  
one complaint. Consumptives try just one  
bottle. Regular size 75 cents. Sold by  
all Druggists in America.

## Dissolution Notice.

THE undersigned have this day dissolved their  
co-partnership by mutual consent, formerly  
known as PESSINK BROTHERS. All accounts  
for and against said firm will be settled by John  
Pessink, who will continue the business as hereto-  
fore.

G. J. A. PESSINK,  
JOHN PESSINK,  
Dated, Holland, Nov. 23th, 1879. 41-4w.

I wish to call the attention of the pub-  
lic at large, and my patients in particular,  
to the fact that I have removed my office  
from the drug-store of Dr. R. A. Schouten  
to the rooms formerly occupied by Dr.  
Gee, in Vennema's building, on Eighth  
street. A slate hangs on the door, upon  
which orders can be written during my  
absence from the office. Orders can also  
be left at my residence, or at the late re-  
sidence of my father. All orders will be  
promptly attended to.

F. S. LEDEBOER, M. D.  
HOLLAND, Nov. 11, 1879.

SINCE I have noticed that some farmers  
want to make it a practice to come into  
the city and sell beef at reduced rates,  
during the cold weather, I want to notify  
my customers that I sell meat just as  
cheap, and better beef, at wholesale, even  
if they go down to three or four cents per  
pound.

J. KUITE.

## The Best Paper! Try it!

BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED.

35th Year!

## The Scientific American.

The Scientific American is a large first-class  
weekly newspaper of sixteen pages, printed in the  
most beautiful style, profusely illustrated with  
splendid engravings, representing the newest in-  
ventions and the most recent advances in the arts  
and sciences; including new and interesting facts  
in agriculture, horticulture, the home, health,  
medical progress, social science, natural history,  
geology, astronomy. The most valuable practical  
papers, by eminent writers in all departments of  
science, will be found in the Scientific American.  
Terms, \$3.50 per year, \$1.50 half year, which in-  
cludes postage. Discount to Agents. Single  
copies, ten cents. Sold by all newsdealers. Remit  
by postal order to MUNN & CO., Publishers, 37  
Park Row, New York.

**PATENTS.** In connection with the  
Scientific American, MUNN & CO. are solicitors of American  
and Foreign patents, have had 35 years' experience,  
and now have the largest establishment in the  
world. Patents are obtained on the best terms.  
A special notice is made in the Scientific American  
of all inventions patented through this agency,  
with the name and residence of the patentee. By  
the immense circulation this gives, public atten-  
tion is directed to the merits of the new patent,  
and sales or introduction often easily effected.  
Any person who has made a new discovery or  
invention, can ascertain free of charge whether a  
patent can probably be obtained, by writing to  
MUNN & CO. We also send free our hand-book  
about the patent laws, patents, caveats, trade-  
marks, their costs, and how procured, with hints  
for procuring advances on inventions. Address,  
for the paper or concerning patents,  
MUNN & CO., 37 Park Row, New York.  
Branch Office, cor. F. and 7th Sts., Washington,  
D. C. 40-4w.

## FURNITURE!

PRICES WAY DOWN! AS LOW AS THE  
LOWEST!

## New Goods Just Received!

Stock Complete! Quality Unexcelled!

OIL CLOTHS,  
RUGS, CARPETS,  
SPRING BEDS,  
WALL-PAPER,  
CURTAINS,  
Of all Descriptions.

## SEWING MACHINES

Of all kinds and prices.

OLD MACHINES taken in exchange, and re-  
paired.

NEEDLES, OIL, ATTACHMENTS and PARTS  
for all Sewing Machines.

Also, a Complete Stock of

COFFINS, CASKETS,  
SHROUDS and  
TRIMMINGS

Always on hand.

We are also Agents for the Celebrated ANTI  
SEPTIC FLUID for preserv-  
ing the Dead.

Please come and give us a call.  
32-3mo. H. MEYER & CO.

P. OTTE. H. VAN DER WEYDEN.

P. OTTE & CO.  
Manufacturers and Jobbers of

## FINE CIGARS

24 SOUTH DIVISION STREET,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

## A. W. GILES & Co.

DEALERS IN

## Hats, Caps, Furs

AND

BUFFALO ROBES.

Goods warranted first class. Cash and one  
price only.

No. 27 MONROE STREET,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

CALL AT THE

## RESTAURANT

OF  
WM. GELOOK,

No. 121 MONROE ST., GRAND RAPIDS,  
Mich., if you want Fine Cigars and Good  
Liquors.

It is a rendezvous for Hollanders.

37-3mo.

### Edison Made Useless.

Under the above heading the *Chicago  
Daily News* publishes the following sensa-  
tional article: A Chicago man is about  
to astonish the world. More than that,  
he claims to have revolutionized philoso-  
phy, discovering truth which completely  
overthrow many of the commonly accept-  
ed theories upon which are based  
alleged laws of nature. More than that,  
these new discoveries will, if practicable  
in their operations, convulse gas com-  
panies with fright, demoralize coal com-  
panies, and disgust nature with her efforts  
at growing trees for fuel.

The gentleman's name is Mr. A. D.  
Woodman, and he resides in the West  
Division. He appears to be a thoroughly  
educated man; is a chemist and machin-  
ist, and has been for years an experimen-  
ter in matters looking to new sources of  
light and heat. In the course of his in-  
vestigations he became satisfied that cer-  
tain claims of natural philosophers as to  
the material laws were all wrong. He put  
himself to work in an exactly opposite  
direction, disregarding certain accepted  
tenets of scientific men, picked up rejected  
ideas, worked out his own theories as to  
creative powers, and after years of experi-  
ment, study and poverty, is prepared to  
demonstrate by exhibition that water can  
be utilized for heat and light. His ma-  
chine is composed of over thirty pieces.  
In that machine he disintegrates water,  
and bringing its component parts together  
again, produces light, heat or steam, as  
he chooses. The light obtained is a beau-  
tiful and very brilliant flame, and can be  
perfectly controlled. Its heat is of the  
most intense character. By the turn of a  
valve he can transform the light into  
steam. The process by which this is ac-  
complished is a secret. The discoverer  
admits that he generates a tremendous ex-  
plosive power—a power as great as that  
claimed for the Keeley motor; but he uti-  
lizes it at once in the manner mentioned.

Mr. Woodman knocks philosophy all to  
pieces, denying many of its most impor-  
tant laws. As a result of his discovery he  
declares that the electric light is not need-  
ed either for brilliancy of illumination or  
for economy, because his burning water  
will supersede it. As a motor power he  
thinks he can make a locomotive boiler of  
sixteen cubic feet capacity, that will draw  
to New York City a train of cars of any  
length. If these claims can be substan-  
tiated, then Mr. Woodman will render any  
further study of the electric light by Mr.  
Edison entirely unnecessary. With the  
chain of great lakes to draw upon for ma-  
terial, Chicago ought, should Mr. Wood-  
man's discovery be of use, be the best  
lighted city in the world. A large gener-  
ator is now being prepared, in order to  
make a thoroughly practical test of the  
discovery.

### St. Nicholas for December

Is the grand Christmas holiday number  
of that magazine, and appears in a special  
cover—a bright and jolly dress which en-  
closes ninety or more illustrations, and  
one hundred and four pages of pure de-  
light for girls and boys.

John Greenleaf Whittier gives in quaint  
verse a humorous reminiscence of his boy-  
hood, concerning an Irish Quaker; and  
Lucy Larcom contributes a sweet and  
suggestive song.

Louisa M. Alcott's new serial story,  
"Jack and Sill," opens with lively snow-  
sport of boys and girls, and an exciting  
coasting accident; and William O. Stod-  
ard's continued story, "Among the  
Lakes," fills six pages with boy-fun in the  
open air.

Edward Eggleston contributes an amus-  
ing play, for boys and girls to act, entitled  
"Mother Goose and Her Family; a Christ-  
mas Recreation for Sunday-school and  
other Festivals," accompanied by costume  
sketches and full instructions.

By J. T. Trowbridge, J. W. De Forest,  
John Esten Cooke, Washington Gladden,  
Maurice Thompson, Sarah Winter Kellogg  
and others, there are short stories of stir-  
ring historical events, the land of wonder,  
the realm of goblins, the hunting grounds  
of the Great South, and funny and touch-  
ing incidents of home life.

Then there are: a profusely illustrated  
description of the small army of Tele-  
graph Boys in New York, their works and  
ways; and an art-paper on Thorvaldsen,  
the great Danish sculptor, with a portrait  
of himself and engravings of his princi-  
pal works.

The list of illustrators includes Gustave  
Dore, Knaus, Glacemelli, Mary Hallowell  
Foote, and J. E. Kelly, who are repre-  
sented by full-page pictures; and Frede-

rick Dielman, E. B. Bensell, W. L. Shep-  
pard and Jessie Curtis. Besides these,  
there is Addie Ledyard, with eleven lovely  
drawings of little girl, life, in illustration  
of some child-verses by Mary Mapes  
Dodge.

The Departments "For Very Little  
Folk," "Jack-in-the Pulpit," "Letter-  
Box," and "Riddle-Box" are full of  
Christmas fun and feeling, and there are  
some book-notices that will be welcome to  
all who are practically interested in their  
children.

### Chandler's Offer to Hayes.

The late Zach Chandler told a friend in  
Washington last winter that the election  
of Hayes cost him \$37,000, and showed a  
check-book with the stubs, upon which the  
items were accounted, to show the truth  
of his statement. He had a supreme con-  
tempt for the pecuniary meanness of  
Hayes, and talking to a *Chicago Inter-  
Ocean* correspondent before Hayes became  
"stalwart," he said: "I am told that he  
only spends \$6,000 a year, and saves \$44,  
000 out of his salary. When you go back  
to Washington you go and tell Hayes that  
that I will fix it so that he can save his  
entire salary. He has been in office one  
year. He will receive \$150,000 if he lives  
out his term. I will give him a check  
for that amount, payable when he will  
write his resignation as 'President' of the  
United States on the back of it. Wheeler  
will then be 'President,' and this country  
will be run as it ought to be."

### A Grand Christmas Gift—A New Domestic Bible.

This splendid Royal Quarto Edition of  
the Bible is made self-explaining, being a  
Complete Library of the Holy Scriptures,  
and contains, in addition to the old and  
New Testaments, Apocrypha, Concor-  
dance and Psalms, and nearly 2,000 illus-  
trations and 36 Full-Page Engravings; ad-  
ditional features, the most important of  
which are a Bible Dictionary, History of the  
books of the Bible, History of Relig-  
ious Denominations, History of the na-  
tions, cities, rivers, lakes, birds, beasts  
reptiles, insects, trees, fruits and flowers  
of the Bible, 100,000 marginal references,  
Marriage Certificate, Family Record and a  
Photograph Album. Printed, with clear,  
large type, on paper of first-class quality.  
Size of pages, 10x12 1/2 inches. The  
work is superbly bound in morocco, mas-  
sive raised panel, gilt edge and back, and  
was sold two years ago at \$15 per copy.

The plates alone cost \$11,000. We war-  
rant this Bible to be as good as those sold  
for \$15 in any book store. A Special Of-  
fer! To introduce our Bibles we agree  
upon the receipt of \$1, to pay the postage  
and other expenses, to send any reader of  
this paper a copy of the Holy Bible, with  
a superb work of art, produced in ten  
beautiful colors and richly illustrated, en-  
titled "The Lord's Prayer." This is a  
rare combination, and a big field for  
agents. This offer is good for sixty days  
only, and may not appear again. We  
send three copies for \$2.75. Money may  
be sent at our risk in a plain letter. Or-  
der now, and address N. W. Hunt, Phila-  
delphia, Penna. 42-2w

It is related that when President Lin-  
coln attended the Gettysburg dedication  
ceremonies an address was given in the  
evening by Charles Anderson in a local  
church. The audience arose as the Presi-  
dent entered. An old man shabbily dressed  
followed him up the aisle, and on  
reaching the seat reserved for Mr. Lincoln  
was about going in with him. Governor  
Tod, who escorted the President, put his  
hand on him and said, "No, old man,  
you can't go in there." Mr. Lincoln  
turned and said, "Yes, Governor, that's  
my man," and putting his arm about him  
brought him into the pew. It was the old  
man who entered the battle of Gettysburg  
with his musket and fought independently  
all day.

Mr. A. J. De Voss, an amateur meteor-  
ologist of Hackensack, N. J., thinks that  
he has succeeded in accomplishing some  
new things in connection with his science.  
He says that he can locate a thunderbolt  
from twenty to thirty miles distant; that  
he can locate a thunder-cloud from fifty to  
one hundred and fifty miles distant, and  
that he can locate a storm center from two  
hundred to five hundred miles distant.  
On the 12th of November he asserted that  
a thunder-shower was passing over Owego,  
N. Y., at about 9 o'clock in the evening;  
that the wind was blowing from the south  
before the shower began and that it shifted  
to northwest. Writing to the postmaster  
of Owego he found that his assertion was  
correct.



## THE MESSAGE.

## FELLOW-CITIZENS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE

**REPRESENTATIVES:** The members of the Forty-sixth Congress have assembled in their first regular session under circumstances calling for mutual congratulations and grateful acknowledgments to the Giver of all good for the large and unusual measure of national prosperity which we now enjoy. The most interesting events which have occurred in our public affairs since my last annual message to Congress are connected with the financial operations of the Government directly affecting the business interests of the country.

## Resumption.

I congratulate Congress on the successful execution of the Resumption act. At the time fixed, and in the manner contemplated by law, United States notes began to be redeemed in coin. Since the 1st of January last they have been promptly redeemed on presentation, and in all business transactions, public and private, in all parts of the country, they are received and paid out as the equivalent of coin. The demand upon the treasury for gold and silver in exchange for United States notes has been comparatively small, and the voluntary deposit of coin and bullion in exchange for notes has been very large. The excess of the precious metals deposited or exchanged for United States notes over the amount of United States notes redeemed is about \$40,000,000.

The resumption of specie payments has been followed by a very great revival of business. With a currency equivalent in value to the money of the commercial world, we are enabled to enter upon an equal competition with other nations in trade and production. The increasing foreign demand for our manufactures and agricultural products has caused a large balance of trade in our favor, which has been paid in gold, from the 1st of July last to Nov. 15, to the amount of about \$59,000,000.

## Public Credit.

Since the resumption of specie payments there has been a marked and gratifying improvement of the public credit. The bonds of the Government bearing only 4 per cent. interest have sold at or above par, sufficient in amount to pay off all of the national debt which was redeemable under the present laws. The amount of interest saved annually by the process of refunding the debt since March 1, 1877, is \$14,397,177. The bonds sold were largely in small sums, and the number of our citizens now holding the public securities is much greater than ever before. The amount of the national debt, which matures in less than two years, is \$732,121,700, of which \$500,000,000 bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. It is believed that this part of the public debt can be refunded by the issue of 4-per-cent. bonds, and by the reduction of interest which will thus be effected about \$11,000,000 can be annually saved to the treasury. To secure this important reduction of interest to be paid by the United States, further legislation is required, which it is hoped will be provided by Congress during its present session. The coinage of gold by the mints of the United States during the last fiscal year was \$40,986,912.

## Silver Coinage.

The coinage of silver dollars since the passage of the act for that purpose up to Nov. 1, 1878, was \$45,000,850, of which \$12,700,344 have been issued from the treasury, and are now in circulation, and \$32,300,506 are still in the possession of the Government. The tendency of the proposition for unity of action between the United States and the principal commercial nations of Europe to effect a permanent system for the equality of gold and silver in the recognized money of the world, leads me to recommend that Congress refrain from new legislation on the general subject. The great revival of trade, internal and foreign, will supply during the coming year its own instructions, which may well be awaited before attempting further experimental measures with the coinage. I would, however, strongly urge upon Congress the importance of authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to suspend the coinage of silver dollars upon the present legal ratio. The market value of the silver dollar being uniformly and largely less than the market value of the gold dollar, it is obviously impracticable to maintain them at par with each other if both are coined without limit. If the cheaper coin is forced into circulation it will, if coined without limit, become the sole standard of value, and thus defeat the desired object, which is a currency of both gold and silver, which shall be of equivalent value, dollar for dollar, with the universally-recognized money of the world.

## Legal Tenders.

The retirement from circulation of United States notes, with the capacity of legal tender in private contracts, is a step to be taken in our progress to a fair and stable currency, which should be accepted as the policy and duty of the Government and the interest and security of the people. It is my firm conviction that the issue of the legal-tender paper money, based wholly upon the authority and credit of the Government, except in extreme emergency, is without warrant in the constitution, and a violation of sound financial principles. The issue of United States notes during the late civil war, with the capacity of legal tender between private individuals, was not authorized except as a means of rescuing the country from imminent peril. The circulation of these notes as paper money for any protracted period of time after the accomplishment of this purpose was not contemplated by the framers of the laws under which they were issued. They anticipated the redemption and withdrawal of these notes at the earliest practicable period consistent with the attainment of the object for which they were provided.

## Sinking Fund.

The policy of the United States steadily adhered to from the adoption of the constitution has been to avoid the creation of a national debt, and when, from necessity, in the time of war, debts have been created, they have been paid off on the return of peace as rapidly as possible. With this view, and for this purpose, it is recommended that the existing laws for the accumulation of a sinking fund within a limited period be maintained. If any change of the objects or rates of taxation is deemed necessary by Congress, it is suggested that experience has shown that a duty can be placed on tea and coffee which will not enhance the price of those articles to the consumer, and which will add several millions of dollars annually to the treasury.

## The Suppression of Polygamy.

The continued deliberate violation by a large number of the prominent and influential citizens of the Territory of Utah of the laws of the United States for the prosecution and punishment of polygamy demands the attention of every department of the Government. This Territory has a population sufficient to entitle it to admission as a State. The general interests of the nation, as well as the welfare of the citizens of the Territory, require its advance from the Territorial form of Government to the responsibilities and privileges of a State. This important change will not, however, be approved

by the country while the citizens of Utah, in very considerable number, uphold a practice which is condemned as a crime by the laws of all civilized communities throughout the world. The law for the suppression of this offense was enacted with great unanimity by Congress more than seventeen years ago, but has remained until recently a dead letter in the Territory of Utah because of the peculiar difficulties attending its enforcement. The opinion widely prevailed among the citizens of Utah that the law was in contravention of the constitutional guarantee of religious freedom.

This objection is now removed. The Supreme Court of the United States has decided the law to be within the legislative power of Congress, and binding, as a rule of action, for all who resided within the Territories. There is no longer any reason for delay or hesitation in its enforcement. It should be firmly and effectively executed. If not sufficiently stringent in its provisions, it should be amended, and, in aid of the purpose in view, I recommend that more comprehensive and more searching methods for preventing as well as punishing this crime be provided. If necessary to secure obedience to the law, the enjoyment and exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship in the Territories of the United States may be withheld or withdrawn from those who violate or oppose the enforcement of the law on this subject.

## Popular Rights.

The elections of the past year, though occupied only with State offices, have not failed to elicit, in the political discussions which attended them all over the country, new and decisive evidence of the deep interest which the great body of citizens take in the progress of the country toward a more general and complete establishment, at whatever cost, of universal security and freedom in the exercise of the elective franchise. While many topics of political concern demand great attention from our people, both in the sphere of National and State authority, I find no reason to qualify the opinion I expressed in my last annual message, that no temporary or administrative interests of Government, however urgent or weighty, will ever destroy the zeal of our people in defense of the primary rights of citizenship, and that the power of public opinion will override all political prejudices and all sectional and State attachments in demanding that all over our wide territory the name and character of citizens of the United States shall mean one and the same thing, and carry with them unchallenged security and respect. I earnestly appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of all good citizens of every part of the country, however much they may be divided in opinions on other political subjects, to unite in compelling obedience to existing laws aimed at the protection of the right of suffrage. I respectfully urge upon Congress to supply any defects in these laws which experience has shown, and which it is within its power to remedy. I again invoke the co-operation of the Executive and Legislative authorities of the States in this great purpose. I am fully convinced that if the public mind can be set at rest on this paramount question of popular rights, no serious object will thwart or delay the complete pacification of the country, or retard the general diffusion of prosperity.

## Civil-Service Reform.

In a former message I invited the attention of Congress to the subject of the reformation of the civil service of the Government, and expressed the intention of transmitting to Congress, as early as practicable, a report upon this subject by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission. In view of the fact that during a considerable period the Government of Great Britain has been dealing with administrative problems and abuses in various particulars analogous to those presented in this country, and that, in recent years, the measures adopted were understood to have been effective and in every respect highly satisfactory, I thought it desirable to have fuller information upon the subject, and accordingly requested the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission to make a thorough investigation for this purpose. The result has been an elaborate and comprehensive report. The report sets forth the history of the partisan spoils system in Great Britain, and of the rise and fall of the Parliamentary patronage, and of official interference with the freedom of elections. It shows that, after long trials of various kinds of examinations, those which are competitive and open on equal terms to all, and which are carried on under the superintendence of a single commission, have with great advantage been established as conditions of admission to almost every official place in the subordinate administration of that country and of British India. The completion of the report, owing to the extent of the labor involved in its preparation, and the omission of Congress to make any provision either for the compensation or the expenses of the commission, has been postponed until the present time. It is herewith transmitted to Congress. While the measures of another Government are of no authority for us, they are entitled to influence to the extent to which their intrinsic wisdom and their adaptation to our institutions and social life may commend them to our consideration. The views I have heretofore expressed concerning the defects and abuses in our civil administration remain unchanged, except in so far as an enlarged experience has opened my sense of the duty both of officers and of the people themselves to co-operate for their removal. The grave evils and perils of a partisan spoils system of appointment to office and office tenure are now generally recognized. In the resolutions of the great parties, in the reports of departments, in the debates and proceedings of Congress, in the messages of Executives, the gravity of these evils has been pointed out, and the need of their reform has been admitted. To command the necessary support, every measure of reform must be based on common right and justice, and must be compatible with the healthy existence of great parties, which are inevitable and essential in a free state. When the people have approved a policy at a national election, confidence on the part of the officers they have selected, and of the advisers who, in accordance with our political institutions, should be consulted in the policy which it is their duty to carry into effect, is indispensable. It is eminently proper that they should explain it before the people, as well as illustrate its spirit in the performance of their official duties. It hardly need be pointed out that very different considerations apply to the greater number of those who fill the subordinate places in the civil service. Their responsibility is to their superiors in official position. It is their duty to obey the legal instructions of those upon whom that authority is involved, and their best public service consists in the discharge of their functions irrespective of partisan politics. Their duties are the same whatever party is in power, and whatever policy prevails. As a consequence, it follows that their tenure of office should not depend upon the prevalence of any policy or the supremacy of any party, but should be determined by their capacity to serve the people most usefully, quite irrespective of partisan interests. The same consideration that should govern the tenure should also prevail in the appointment, discipline, and removal of these subordinates. The authority of appointment and removal is not a prerogative which may be used to aid a friend or reward a partisan, but is a trust to be exercised in the public interest, under all the sanctions which attend the obligation to apply the public funds only for public purposes. Every citizen has an equal right to the honor and profit of entering the public service of his country. The only just ground of discrimination is the measure of character and capacity, he has to make that service most useful to the people.

Except in cases where, upon just and recognized principles, as upon the theory of pensions, offices and promotions are bestowed as rewards of past services, their bestowal upon any theory which disregards personal merit is

an act of injustice to the citizen, as well as a breach of that trust subject to which the appointing power is held. In the light of these principles it becomes of great importance to provide just and adequate means, especially for every department and large administrative office, where personal discrimination on the part of its head is not practicable for ascertaining those qualifications to which appointments and removals should have reference. To fail to provide such means is not only to deny the opportunity of ascertaining the facts upon which the most righteous claim to office depend, but of necessity to discourage all worthy aspirants by handing over appointments and removals to mere influence and favoritism. If it is the right of the worthiest claimant to gain the appointment, and the interest of the people to bestow it upon him, it would seem clear that a wise and just method of ascertaining personal fitness for office must needs be an important and permanent function of every just and wise Government. It has long since become impossible in the great offices for those having the duty of nomination and appointment to personally examine into the individual qualifications of more than a small proportion of those seeking office, and with the enlargement of civil service that proportion must continue to become less. In the earlier years of the Government the subordinate offices were so few in number that it was easy for those making appointments and promotions to personally ascertain the merits of the candidates.

Party managers and methods had then become powerful agents of coercion hostile to the free and just exercise of the appointing power. A large and responsible part of the duty of restoring the rests upon the President; and it has been his purpose to do what is within my power to advance such prudent and gradual measures of reform as will most surely and rapidly bring about that radical change of system essential to make our administrative methods satisfactory to a free and intelligent people by a proper exercise of authority. It is in the power of the Executive to do much to promote such a reform, but it cannot be too clearly understood that nothing adequate can be accomplished without co-operation on the part of Congress and considerate and intelligent support among the people. Reforms which challenge the generally-accepted theories of parties and demand changes in the methods of departments are not the work of a day. Their permanent foundation must be laid in sound principles and in an experience which demonstrates their wisdom and exposes the errors of their adversaries. Every worthy officer desires to make his official action an honor to his country. But the people themselves, far more than their officers in public station, are interested in a pure economical and vigorous administration. By laws enacted in 1853 and 1855, and now in substance incorporated in the Revised Statutes, the practice of arbitrary appointments to the several subordinate grades in the great departments was condemned, and examinations as to capacity, to be conducted by the Departmental Boards of Examiners, were provided for and made conditions of admission to the public service. These statutes are a decision by Congress that examinations of some sort as to attainments and capacity are essential to the well-being of the public service. The important questions since the enactment of these laws have been as to the character of these examinations, and whether official favor and partisan influence or common right and merit were to control the access to the examinations. In practice these examinations have not always been open to worthy persons generally who might wish to be examined. Official favoritism and partisan influence, as a rule, appear to have designated those who alone were permitted to go before the examining boards, subjecting even the examiners to a pressure from the friends of the candidates very difficult to resist. As a consequence, the standard of admission fell below that which the public interest demanded. It was almost inevitable that a system which provided for various separate boards of examiners, with no common supervision or uniform method of procedure, should result in confusion, inconsistency, and inadequate tests of capacity highly detrimental to the public interest. A further and more radical change was obviously required. In the annual message of December, 1870, my predecessor declared that "there is no duty which so much embarrasses the Executive and heads of departments as that of appointments, nor is there any such arduous and thankless labor imposed on Senators and Representatives as that of finding places for constituents. The present system does not secure the best men, and often not even fit men, for the public places. The elevation and purification of the civil service of the Government will be hailed with approval by the whole people of the United States." Congress accordingly passed the act approved March 3, 1871, "To regulate the civil service of the United States and promote the efficiency thereof," giving the necessary authority to the Executive to institute a civil-service reform. Acting under this statute, which was interpreted as intended to secure a system of just and effectual examinations under uniform supervision, a number of eminently competent persons were selected for the purpose, who entered with zeal upon the discharge of their duties, prepared with an intelligent appreciation of the requirements of the service, the regulations contemplated, and took charge of the examinations, and who, in their capacity as a board, have been known as the Civil Service Commission. Congress for two years appropriated the money needed for the compensation and for the expense of carrying on the work of the commission. It appears from the report of the commission, submitted to the President in April, 1874, that examinations had been held in various sections of the country, and that an appropriation of about \$25,000 would be required to meet the annual expenses, including salaries, involved in discharging the duties of the commission. The report was transmitted to Congress by special message of April 18, 1874, with the following favorable comment upon the labors of the commission: "If sustained by Congress, I have no doubt the rules can, after the experience gained, be so improved and enforced as to still more materially benefit the public service, and relieve the Executive, members of Congress, and the heads of departments from influences prejudicial to good administration. The rules, as they have hitherto been enforced, have resulted beneficially, as is shown by the opinions of the members of the Cabinet and their subordinates in the departments, and in that opinion I concur." And in the annual message of December of the same year similar views are expressed, and an appropriation for continuing the work of the commission again advised. The appropriation was not made, and, as a consequence, the active work of the commission was suspended, leaving the commission itself still in existence without the means therefore of causing qualifications to be tested in any systematic manner, or securing for the public service the advantages of competition upon any extensive plan. I recommended in my annual message of December, 1877, the making of an appropriation for the resumption of the work of the commission. In the meantime, however, competitive examinations, under many embarrassments, have been conducted within limited spheres in the executive departments in Washington, and in a number of the custom houses and postoffices of the principal cities of the country, with a view to further test their effects, and in every instance they are stated to have been as salutary as they are of my predecessor. I think the economy, purity and efficiency of the public service would be greatly promoted by their systematic introduction, wherever practicable, throughout the entire civil service of the Government, together with ample provision for their general supervision, in order to secure consistency and uniform justice.

Reports from the Secretary of the Interior, from the Postmaster General, from the Post-

master in the city of New York, where such examinations have been some time on trial, and also from the Collector of the Port, the Naval Officer and the Surveyor in that city, and from the Postmasters and Collectors in several of the other large cities, show that the competitive system, where applied, has in various ways contributed to improve the public service. The reports show that the results have been salutary in a marked degree, and that the general application of similar rules cannot fail to be of decided benefit to the service. The reports of the Government officers in the city of New York especially bear decided testimony to the utility of open competitive examinations in their respective offices, showing that these examinations, and the excellent qualifications of those admitted to the service through them, have had a marked indirect effect upon the persons previously in the service, and particularly upon those aspiring to promotion. There has been on the part of those latter an increased interest in the work, and a desire to extend acquaintance with it beyond a particular desk, and thus the morale of the entire force has been raised. The examinations have been attended by many citizens, who have had an opportunity to thoroughly investigate the scope and character of the tests, and the method of determining the results, and these visitors have, without exception, approved the modes employed, and several of them have publicly attested their favorable opinion. Upon such considerations, I deem it my duty to renew the recommendation contained in my annual message of December, 1877, requesting Congress to make the necessary appropriations for the resumption of the work of the Civil Service Commission. Economy will be promoted by authorizing a moderate compensation to persons in the public service who may perform extra labor upon or under the commission as the Executive may direct. I am convinced that if a just and definite test of merit is enforced for admission to the public service, and in making promotions, such abuses as removal without good cause and partisan and official interference with the proper exercise of the appointing power will in large measure disappear. There are other administrative abuses to which the attention of Congress should be asked in this connection. Mere partisan appointment and the constant peril of removal without cause very naturally lead to an absorbing and mischievous political activity on the part of those thus appointed, which not only interferes with the due discharge of official duty, but is incompatible with the freedom of elections. Not without warrant in the view of several of my predecessors in the Presidential office, directly in accordance with the law of 1871 already cited, I endeavored, by regulation made on the 22d of June, 1877, to put some reasonable limits to such abuses. It may not be easy, and it may never, perhaps, be necessary to define with precision the proper limit of political action on the part of Federal officers. But, while their right to hold and freely express their opinions cannot be questioned, it is very plain that they should neither be allowed to devote to other subjects the time needed for the proper discharge of their official duties, nor to use the authority of their office to enforce their own opinions, or to coerce the political action of those who hold different opinions. Reasons of justice and public policy quite analogous to those which forbid the use of official power for the oppression of the private citizen impose upon the Government the duty of protecting its officers and agents from arbitrary exactions. In whatever aspect considered, the practice of making levies for party purposes upon the salaries of officers is highly demoralizing to the public service and discreditable to the country. Though an officer should be as free any other citizen to give his money in aid of his opinions or his party, he should also be as free as any other citizen to refuse to make such gifts. If salaries are but a fair compensation for the time and labor of the officers, it is gross injustice to levy a tax upon them. If they are made excessive in order that they may bear the tax, the excess is an indirect robbery of the public funds. I recommend, therefore, such a revision and extension of the present statutes as shall secure to those in every grade of official life or public employment the protection with which a great and enlightened nation shall guard those who are faithful in its service.

## Foreign Relations.

Our relations with foreign countries have continued peaceful. With Great Britain there are still unsettled questions, growing out of the local laws of the maritime provinces, and the action of provincial authorities deemed to be in derogation of rights secured by treaty to American fishermen. The United States Minister in London has been instructed to present a demand for \$105,355.02 in view of the damages received by American citizens at Fortune bay on the 6th day of January, 1878. The subject has been taken into consideration by the British Government, and an early reply is anticipated. Upon the completion of the necessary preliminary examination, the subject of our participation in the provincial fisheries, as regulated by treaty, will at once be brought to the attention of the British Government with a view to an early and permanent settlement of the whole question, which was only temporarily adjusted by the treaty of Washington. Efforts have been made to obtain the removal of restrictions found injurious to the exportation of cattle to the United Kingdom. Some correspondence has also occurred with regard to the rescue and saving of life and property upon the lakes, which has resulted in important modifications of the previous regulations of the Dominion Government on the subject, in the interest of humanity and commerce.

In accordance with the joint resolution of the last session of Congress, Commissioners were appointed to represent the United States at the two International Exhibitions in Australia, one of which is now in progress at Sydney, and the other to be held next year at Melbourne. A desire has been expressed by our merchants and manufacturers interested in the important and growing trade with Australia that an increased provision should be made by Congress for the representation of our industries at the Melbourne Exhibition of next year, and the subject is respectfully submitted to your favorable consideration.

The assent of the Government has been given to the landing on the coast of Massachusetts of a new and independent transatlantic cable between France, by way of the French Island of St. Pierre and this country, subject to any future legislation of Congress on the subject. The conditions imposed, before allowing the connection with our shore to be established, are such as to secure its competition with any existing or future lines of marine cable, and preclude amalgamation therewith; to provide for entire equality of rights to our Government and people with those of France in the use of the cable, and prevent any exclusive possession of the privilege as accorded by France to the disadvantage of any future cable communication between France and the United States which may be projected and accomplished by our citizens. An important reduction of the present rates of communication with Europe, felt to be too burdensome to the interests of our commerce, must necessarily flow from the establishment of this competing line. The attention of Congress was drawn to the propriety of some general regulation by Congress of the whole subject of transatlantic cables by my predecessor in his message of Dec. 7, 1875, and I respectfully submit to your consideration the importance of Congressional action in this matter.

The questions of grave importance with Spain, growing out of the incidents of the Cuban insurrection, have been for the most part happily and honorably settled. It may reasonably be anticipated that the commission now sitting in Washington for the decision of private cases in this connection will soon be able to bring its labors to a conclusion. The long-standing question of the East Florida claims has lately been renewed as a subject of correspondence, and may possibly require Congressional action for its final disposition.

A treaty with the Netherlands with respect to Consular rights and privileges similar to those with other powers has been signed and ratified, and the ratifications were exchanged on the 31st of July last.

Negotiations for extradition treaties with the Netherlands and with Denmark are now in progress.

Some questions with Switzerland in regard to pauper and convict emigrants have arisen, but it is not doubted that they will be arranged upon a just and satisfactory basis. A question has also occurred with respect to an asserted claim by Swiss municipal authorities to exercise tutelage over the persons and property of Swiss citizens naturalized in this country. It is possible this may require adjustment by treaty. With the German empire frequent questions arise in connection with the subjects of naturalization and expatriation, but the Imperial Government has constantly manifested a desire to strictly maintain and comply with all treaty stipulations in regard to them.

In consequence of the omission of Congress to provide for a diplomatic representation at Athens, the legation to Greece has been withdrawn. There is now no channel of diplomatic communications between the two countries, and the expediency of providing for one in some form is submitted to Congress. Relations with Austria, Prussia, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, and Belgium continue amicable, and marked by no incident of especial importance.

A change of the personal head of the Government of Egypt has taken place. No change, however, has occurred in the relations between Egypt and the United States.

The action of the Egyptian Government in presenting to the city of New York one of the ancient obelisks which possess such historical interest is highly appreciated as a generous mark of international regard. If prosperity should attend the enterprise of its transportation across the Atlantic, its erection in a conspicuous position in the chief commercial city of the nation will be soon accomplished.

The treaty recently made between Japan and the United States in regard to the revision of former treaties, it is now believed, will be followed by similar action on the part of other treaty powers. The attention of Congress is again invited to the subject of the indemnity funds received some years since from Japan and China, which, with their accumulated interest, now amount to considerable sums. If any part of these funds is justly due to American citizens, they should receive it promptly, and whatever may have been received by the Government in excess of strict-justice demands should in some form be returned to the nations to whom it equitably belongs. The Government of China has signified its willingness to consider the question of the emigration of its subjects to the United States with a dispassionate fairness and to co-operate in such measure as may tend to prevent injurious consequences to the United States. The negotiations are still proceeding, and will be pressed with diligence. A question having arisen between China and Japan about the Loochoo islands, the United States Government has taken measures to inform those powers of its readiness to extend its good offices for the maintenance of peace, if they shall mutually deem it desirable, and find it practicable to avail themselves of the proffer.

It is a gratification to be able to announce that, through the judicious and energetic action of the military commanders of the two nations on each side of the Rio Grande, under the instructions of their respective Governments, raids and depredations have greatly decreased, and, in localities where they were formerly destructive, have now almost wholly ceased. In view of this result, I entertain a confident expectation of the continuance of the prevalence of quiet on the border of the two countries.

The third installment of the award against Mexico under the Claims Commission of July 4, 1878, was duly paid, and has been put in course of distribution in pursuance of the act of Congress providing for the same. This satisfactory situation between the two countries leads me to anticipate an expansion of our trade with Mexico, and an increased contribution of capital and industry by our people to the development of the great resources of that country. I earnestly commend to the wisdom of Congress the provision of suitable legislation looking to this result.

Diplomatic intercourse with Colombia is again fully restored by the arrival of the Minister from that country to the United States. This is especially fortunate in view of the fact that the question of an interoceanic canal has recently assumed an important aspect, and is now under discussion with the Central American countries, through whose territory the canal by the Nicaragua route would have to pass. It is trusted that enlightened statesmanship on their part will see that the early prosecution of such a work will largely inure to the benefit, not only of their own citizens and those of the United States, but of the commerce of the civilized world. It is not doubted that, should the work be undertaken under the protective auspices of the United States, and upon satisfactory concessions for the right of way and its security by the Central American Governments, the capital for its completion would readily be furnished from this country and Europe, which might failing such guarantees, prove inaccessible. Diplomatic relations with Chili have also been strengthened by the reception of a Ministry from that country. The war between Peru, Bolivia, and Chili still continues. The United States has not deemed it proper to interpose in the matter, further than to convey to all the Governments concerned the assurance that the friendly offices of the Government of the United States for the restoration of peace upon an honorable basis will be extended in case the belligerents shall exhibit a readiness to accept them. Cordial relations continue with Brazil and the Argentine Republic, and trade with those countries is improving.

A provision for regular and more frequent mail communication in our ships between the ports of this country and the nations of South America seems to me to deserve the attention of Congress as an essential precursor of an enlargement of our commerce with them and an extension of our carrying trade.

A recent revolution in Venezuela has been followed by the establishment of a Provisional Government. This Government has not yet been formally recognized, and it is deemed desirable to await the proposed action of the people, which is expected to give it the sanction of constitutional forms.

A naval vessel has been sent to the Samoa islands to make surveys and take possession of the privileges ceded to the United States by Samoa in the harbor of Pago-Pago. A coaling station is to be established there, which will be convenient and useful to United States vessels. The subject of opening diplomatic relations with Roumania and Servia, now become independent sovereignties, is at present under consideration, and is the subject of diplomatic correspondence.

There is a gratifying increase of trade with nearly all European and American countries, and it is believed that with judicious action in regard to its development it can and will be still more enhanced, and that American products and manufactures will find new and expanding markets. The reports of diplomatic and consular officers upon this subject, under the system now adopted, have resulted in obtaining much valuable information, which has been, and will continue to be, laid before Congress and the public from time to time.

## Condition of Alaska.

The third article of the treaty with Russia of March 30, 1867, by which Alaska was ceded to the United States, provides that the inhabitants of the ceded territory, with the exception of the uncivilized native tribes, shall be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights of citizens of the United States, and shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty of property and religion. The uncivilized tribes are subject to such laws and











## Hottings.

THE roads are in bad condition.

OUR tanneries are doing a splendid business this fall.

CONSIDERABLE sore throat and influenza is prevailing in town.

TAX-PAYING time is here, and the treasurer is ready to receive it.

PUTTING the slate on the roof of the new school house is progressing nicely.

WORK was begun on Wednesday morning last to get the schooner *Josie* off the beach.

MR. R. Veeneklaasen, who was married recently to Miss Nellie Moerdijk, of Zeeland, has just returned from his wedding trip.

JUST as we go to press we learn of the death of Mr. J. P. Thibout, at Kalamazoo, where he was taken only a few weeks ago for treatment. He is well known here.

DR. R. A. Schouten reports one case of diphtheria on the lake shore, and Dr. Baert, of Zeeland, reports another case in the eastern part of the township of Holland.

SINCE the authorities of the Chi. & West Mich. R. R. have made this city their freight center, the noise and bustle of incoming and outgoing trains has materially increased.

THE Indians and old hunters predict an open winter. We shall see whether they are better prophets than our local ones were last winter. At present the winter is quite open yet.

WE learn that Rev. E. Van der Hart, of Grand Haven, has accepted a call from the 1st Presbyterian church at Mason, Mich., and that he will leave for his new field of labor in a few days.

PRICES of paper, printing material and labor have risen so much lately that the printers at Grand Rapids have united on a higher scale of prices for all kinds of job work, and we are compelled to do the same.

THE rush of cotton into Memphis for the past two weeks has been so greatly beyond all precedent or expectation that it taxes to the utmost the entire resources of the sheds for storage and the presses for compressing.

THE London *Times* says: "To a brilliant imagination, a masculine understanding, wealth and delicacy of humor, he (Rev. W. H. Milburn) adds a style well-nigh faultless, and a manner which leaves little to be desired."

JUST as we go to press we notice the arrival home of Messrs. J. Doursema and G. Vijn, from North Carolina. They report that they were well pleased with their trip. We shall endeavor to give some of the details of their report in our next issue.

OUR railroad facilities between this city and Grand Haven have materially improved since Col. May has put on an express train to connect with the Chicago express which arrives here early in the morning and leaves at night. We now have two trains to go to, and two to come back from the county seat, per day.

MR. Saulsbury, a brakeman on the Chicago & West Mich. railroad, got his hand caught while making a coupling at Grand Junction on Tuesday last. Mr. Saulsbury was brought to this city, and put under the care of Dr. F. S. Ledebor, who says that the forefinger will be lost, and the rest of the fingers will be saved.

THE attendance of pupils upon the public schools of South Carolina last year was 122,463, of whom 64,093 were colored. This is a large increase of the attendance of the colored class since 1876, when there was great pretense of educating the blacks. The very men who then stole the money raised for public education are now in the north bewailing the outrages practiced upon the re-enslaved negroes!

THE chief engineer of the Fire Department, Mr. L. T. Kanter, made a statement to the Common Council this week in regard to the water supply, and recommending the making of a large reservoir well in the little swamp on Cedar st., near the Gr. Haven R. R. track, which suggestion was referred to the committee on fire department, with power to act. We have since learned that work on the new well has already commenced.

WE congratulate the citizens of Grand Haven on the prospect of procuring a nice little park in the center of their prosperous town. In this respect, however, we are a little ahead of our sister city. We have a Lincoln Park in the eastern part of our city, of half a block in size, and Centennial Park near the center of the city of two full blocks and a vacated street, besides the College Campus, which is a trifle over fourteen acres. And now while we are speaking about parks we would politely suggest to our authorities that a few more trees in our parks would not disfigure them in the least.

GET your stockings ready. Christmas is nigh.

No. 1 wheat sold at \$1.25 per bushel at Grand Rapids on Thursday.

Mrs. J. Blok, of Zeeland, is lying dangerously ill with consumption.

Mr. J. Goozen, station agent at Zeeland, is building a new residence in that village.

OUR markets are quiet. Wheat is \$1.20; flour \$6.25 per brl.; potatoes 80@35c; eggs 18c; butter 15c.

A MATCH factory at Oskosh, Wis., employs 300 persons and annually converts 2,000,000 feet of lumber into matches.

Mr. C. Blom, Sr., has enlarged the bar-room of his hotel, at Zeeland, and made other essential improvements to his premises.

LIST of LETTERS remaining in the post-office at Holland, Mich., Dec. 4th, 1879: Jane Goodin, Mrs. Susie Robart, E. J. Devens.

WM. VERBEEK, P. M.

REV. H. E. NIES, of Saugatuck, has accepted a call from Paterson, N. J. This and the vacancy created by the departure of Rev. Van der Hart leaves two vacancies in the Reformed churches in the neighborhood.

WE noticed Mr. H. B. Moore in town this week, who is rafting his logs down the Kalamazoo river—about 1½ million feet—this being the first opportunity he has had since the low stage of water on that river stopped operations last summer.

REV. W. H. MILBURN will open the lecture course at Hope College Chapel on Wednesday evening, Dec. 10. His subject—"What a Blind Man Saw in Paris"—is pronounced one of his best. Season tickets can be had at Dr. Annis' drug store and at the door.

DURING the following week Mr. Shields will make the business trip through the Colony which was formerly attended to by Mr. James Fox, who had to drop his business and go South for his health. Our merchants will find in Mr. Shields a gentleman with whom it is a pleasure to come in contact.

HERMANN is astonishing Paris with his legerdemain. His newest trick consists in producing six live ducks, one after another, and even two together, from a silk handkerchief well shaken before the eyes of the audience, after his shoulders and clothes have been examined by half a dozen disbelievers, and the narrow sleeves of his dress-coat turned up.

THE following items were handed in by our Supervisor, and may be of interest to the tax-payers of this city:

The tax-roll for the city of Holland this year foots up \$12,531.51 being an increase of \$540.31 over last year, as shown by the following figures:

	1878.	1879.
State tax.....	\$ 678.90	\$ 955.76
County tax.....	1,125.21	1,148.98
Rejected tax.....	25.26	23.64
City poor at Co. farm	112.74	.....
General Fund.....	1,200.00	1,300.00
Fire Department....	900.00	600.00
Poor Fund.....	900.00	900.00
School tax.....	3,890.00	4,500.00
Eighth street, special	1,616.52	1,522.76
River street, " "	926.13	865.06
Sidewalk repairs, " "	29.56	95.83
Collection fees.....	577.33	596.79
Excess of Roll.....	69.55	22.69
Total.....	\$11,991.20	\$12,531.51

The assessed valuation of the city, as equalized by the Board of Supervisors, is as follows:

	1878.	1879.
Real Estate.....	\$342,076	\$351,144
Personal Estate....	60,460	62,160
Total.....	\$402,536	\$413,304

The whole amount of tax raised in the County, for county purposes, is as follows:

General Fund.....	\$8,500
Poor Fund.....	2,500
Insane Asylum.....	1,700
Salaries.....	3,800
Total.....	\$16,500

The State tax apportioned to this County is classified as follows:

For State University.....	\$1,116.07
Normal School.....	371.11
Military purposes.....	853.47
State Public School.....	523.21
Capital Grounds.....	53.57
State Reform School.....	581.13
Inst. for Deaf, Dumb & Blind	555.95
Insane Asylum, Pontiac.....	895.35
" " Kalamazoo	816.58
House of Correction, Ionia	102.38
Agricultural College.....	250.48
Fish Commission.....	59.52
State Prison at Jackson...	239.05
Reform school for Girls...	239.09
School for Blind.....	416.67
General Purposes.....	7,654.76
Total.....	\$13,727.34

This year finishes the River street special assessment. Eighth street has three more years, which, including interest, are as follows: For 1880, \$1,420; for 1881, \$1,520; for 1882, \$2,200—total, \$5,140.

GEN. GRANT's father died, at the age of 80, and his mother is still living.

THE British government has removed the restriction on the importation of American sheep.

CONGRESS commenced another session on Monday last. The President's message will be found on the inside.

JUST received at Harrington's a car load of excellent lime. The business done at this house must be witnessed to be believed.

MR. Chas. Brandt, captain and owner of the schooner *Banner*, has moved his family to his farm, situated about two miles south of Douglas, Mich.

AN illustrated edition of "Stories and Ballads for Young Folks," by Mrs. E. T. Alden, is in preparation for early issue by the American Book Exchange, New York.

THE new Pullman palace cars are very luxurious, costing each \$15,000. Ordinary passenger cars cost \$4,030; drawing-room cars, \$8,000; mail and baggage cars, \$2,000; box cars, \$400.

ONLY six liquor saloons in the city, where we used to have more than twice as many, and still liquor suits are frequent. What will the lawyers do after they are all gone?

AN agent from a Grand Rapids beer brewery being in town this week, was shown some of our home manufacture, which he declared to be of so good a quality, that he thought outsiders could not sell any here.

THE actual returns of the present year's crops in the South, as far as known, are interesting. The cotton yield is larger by half a million of bales than ever before in the days of slavery. The tobacco crop is greater by twelve million pounds than last year, and the production of sugar exceeds by two hundred thousand hogsheads that of 1878.

SOMEBODY who knows how things are managed gives the New England *Journal of Education* the following glimpse into the management of the New England school district. "Now, when I'm committed, you see, I just put my Melita inter our school, and when my neighbor Cuttin' has it he puts in his Mary Ann, and when it's Fisher's turn, his niece, Sarah Jane Clark, gets the chance. None of 'em aint no great shakes or scholars, tew be sure, but they manage to keep the young ones inside the old schoolhouse."

A PRIVATE letter from Natal says that Mr. Vyn, the Dutch trader who remained at Ulundi during the war, is engaged in writing for publication in England, his story of the war, including an account of all that occurred during his detention with Cetwayo. He intends to write the body of the work in Dutch, and the conversations of the king in Zulu. Some portion of Mr. Vyn's narrative has been published in a London journal, but it is said to form only a small part of what he has actually written. The entire story will, it is believed, shed much light upon the proceedings of Cetwayo, Mr. John Dunn, and other notabilities.

WE notice a special in the Chicago *News*, that a meeting was held at Ludington, Mich., Dec. 2, and a committee appointed to invite the attention of certain railroad magnates to that city as about the best place on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan for the proposed through line from Minneapolis to Manitowoc, to strike with it across the lake boat route. It is lucky for Ludington that at present our attention is otherwise engaged, so that there is but little if any danger of Holland becoming a rival in this matter. We are awful busy just now—"providentially" so. Our labors, our brains, and our pens are all dedicated to and actively engaged in promoting the spiritual interests of this community, lashing free-masons. Our material interests will please step aside for a year or two. "Peculiar" condition, but true, nevertheless.

## INDIGESTION.

The main cause of nervousness is indigestion, and that is caused by weakness of the stomach. No one can have sound nerves and good health without using Hop Bitters to strengthen the stomach, purify the blood, and to keep the liver and kidneys active, to carry off all the poisonous and waste matter of the system. See other column.

## Answers to Many Correspondents.

In reply to numerous inquiries from our readers, concerning the wonderful qualities of the great German remedy, St. Jacobs Oil—mentioned in our last issue—we would inform them that the article can be obtained from our retail druggists, or by their aid. Ask for St. Jacobs Oil, and if the dealer does not keep it in stock, he will be able to procure it in a few days from the wholesale houses. We understand there is already an immediate demand for the remedy, which is not so very surprising when it is considered what it is daily accomplishing in the way of relief and cures, bordering, in some instances on the miraculous.

## Our Big Bargains

HAVE ARRIVED,

And will be placed on our

Counters on

Monday Morning, Nov. 3

We received during last week over \$20,000 worth of the following great bargains, which we offer fully 20 per cent. below former prices.

French Novelties \$2, former price \$3.  
French Novelties \$1.25, former price \$1.75.

French and German Novelties 50c, former price 75c.

English Dress Goods in beautiful effects, 35c, 40c, and 45c, formerly sold for 50 and 60c.

Beautiful Scotch Plaids (all wool) 46 inches wide, for 85c, worth \$1.25.

We call special attention to our immense stock of Black Cashmeres, which we bought very much under regular value, and offer them at following very low prices: 36 inches wide, fine, all wool Black Cashmeres, 45c, worth 60c; 38 inches 50c, very fine 60c, formerly 75c; 40 inches wide 70c, worth 85c; 40 inches extra heavy 75c; 46 inches wide 90c, worth \$1; 46 inches extra fine \$1, never before sold for less than \$1.25.

Also an immense stock of Low Priced Dress Goods, 2,500 yards Snow Flake Dress Goods 6c a yard. 3,000 yards heavy plaid Dress Goods 8c. 5,000 yards of very heavy Camels' Hair Dress Goods, excellent goods to wear, at 12½c per yard, worth 25c.

Our Dress Goods stock is undoubtedly the largest and best assorted in the city.

We would call attention to our bargains in Beaver Shawls, bought at auction. All Wool Beaver Shawls \$3, worth \$4. Reversible Beaver Shawls \$5, formerly \$7.

Our Cloak stock is second to none in the trade, and we offer special inducements in this department, as we had our Cloaks made during the summer months, at less than present value.

We have also an extraordinary large assortment of ladies', gents' and children's Underwear, Woolen and Merino Hosiery and Gloves in all grades. We claim extra good value in ladies' and gents' Underwear at 50c.

As our stock in every department is very complete, and having a great many more bargains than we could mention here it will fully repay all those who give our stock a fair inspection.

F. W. WURZBURG,

Corner Canal and Bronson,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

To save time and trouble, we mention that we are positively a One Price Establishment.

PROF. HARRIS' RADICAL CURE FOR SPERMATORRHEA.

"SEMINAL PASTILLE"

A Valuable Discovery and New Departure in Medical Science, an entirely new and positively effective Remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Seminal Emissions, Impotency, etc., by the only true way, viz: Direct Application to the principal Seat of the Disease, acting by Absorption, and exerting its specific influence on the Seminal Vesicles, Ejaculatory Ducts, Prostate Gland, and Uterus. The use of the Remedy is attended with no pain or inconvenience, and does not interfere with the ordinary pursuits of life; it is quickly dissolved and soon absorbed, producing an immediate soothing and restorative effect upon the sexual and nervous organizations wrecked from self-abuse and excesses, stopping the drain from the system, restoring the mind to health and sound memory, removing the Dimness of Sight, Nervous Debility, Confusion of Ideas, Aversion to Society, etc., etc., and the appearance of premature old age usually accompanying this trouble, and restoring perfect Sexual Vigor, where it has been dormant for years. This mode of treatment has stood the test in very severe cases, and is now a pronounced success. Drugs are too much prescribed in these troubles, and as many can bear witness to, with but little if any permanent good. There is no Quackery about this Preparation. Practical observation enables us to positively guarantee that it will give satisfaction. During the eight years that it has been in general use, we have thousands of testimonials as to its value, and it is now conceded by the Medical Profession to be the most rational means yet discovered of reaching and curing this very prevalent trouble, that as well known to be the cause of untold misery to so many, and even when quack do prey with their needless nostrums and false hopes. The Remedy is put up in neat boxes, of three sizes, No. 1, (enough to last a month); 63; No. 2, (sufficient to cure a permanent case, unless in severe cases); 63; No. 3, (lasting over three months, will stop emissions and restore vigor in the worst cases). 67. Sent by mail, sealed, in plain wrapper. Full DIRECTIONS for using will accompany each box. Send for a Descriptive Pamphlet giving Anatomical Illustrations, which will convince the most skeptical that they can be restored to perfect manhood, and fitted for the duties of life, same as if never affected. Sent Sealed for stamp to any one. Sold ONLY by the HARRIS REMEDY CO., MED. CHEMISTS, Market and 6th Sts. ST. LOUIS, MO.

Joslin & Breyman,



Watchmakers & Jewelers,

DEALERS IN Silver Ware, Watches, Clocks, Jewelry & Fancy Goods.



ALL KINDS OF SPECTACLES.

Full Line of Gold Pens.

Repairing Neatly and Promptly Executed.

HOLLAND, March 24, 1878. 6-17.

## METROPOLITAN RESTAURANT,

BONEY CARPENTER, Prop'r.

This is at present the most popular

OYSTER

HOUSE

IN THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS,

Nos. 12 and 14 Canal Street,

Opposite Sweet's Hotel.

You will find all GAME in their season, and every effort will be made to make you feel at HOME, and to minister to your wants with kindness and alacrity.

FINE LIQUORS and CIGARS ALWAYS ON HAND.

Regular Meals only 25 cts.

Mr. Carpenter also has a Sample Room at No. 11 Ionia Street, of which Mr. Wm. R. Getz is manager.

84-11

## FIRST WARD

DRUG STORE,

Three doors East of Kruisenga's Store.

Dr. R. A. Schouten,

PROPRIETOR.

This new store will keep a full supply of the best and finest

Medicines, Perfumeries, Toilet Article, Cigars, Writing Material, Saus,

And the finest assortment of

Wines & Liquors,

(for Medicinal use only.)

And almost everything else belonging in a well stocked drug store.

The above firm are the manufacturers of DR. SCHOUTEN'S

ANTI-BILIOUS and EXPECTORANT PILLS AND Compound Syrup of Rhubarb.

Prescriptions carefully compound at all hours, day or night. 36-17

A Large and Fine

NEW STOCK

—OF—

BOOTS & SHOES

—Just received at—

E. HEROLD,

EIGHTH STREET, CITY OF HOLLAND.

—O—

A Complete assortment of Children's and Infants' shoes for fall and winter, and a full line of Ladies' and Gentlemen's wear.

—O—

CALL AND SEE US.

HOLLAND, Mich., Sept. 1, 1877.

E. HEROLD.

JUST RECEIVED

AT THE

MILLINERY STORE

OF

E. F. METZ & SISTER,

A LARGE AND

COMPLETE FALL STOCK

OF

HATS, BONNETS,

FEATHERS,

RUSSIAS,

TIES,

HOSIERY,

GLOVES,

AND ALL KINDS OF

FANCY GOODS.

Warner's Health Preserving Corsets.

Hair-Dressing done, and Switches made to order. Call in and see our selections. We shall deem it a pleasure to show our goods. 31-3mo. E. F. METZ & SISTER.

PHENIX

Planing Mill

In rebuilding our new shop we have purchased entirely new

Machinery of the most Approved Patterns,

And we are confident we can satisfy all who want

Planing, Matching,

OR

Re-Sawing Done.

WE HAVE A STEAM

DRY KILN

AND THE

DRYING OF LUMBER WE SHALL

MAKE A SPECIALTY.

DOORS, SASH AND BLINDS,

Or anything in our line manufactured on short notice. 38-17

WERKMAN & VAN ARK.



# WEEKLY NEWS REVIEW.

## THE EAST.

The Eighth avenue railroad stables at New York were destroyed by fire a few days ago. Several firemen were injured and one killed by a falling wall. One hundred horses were burned. Pecuniary loss, \$250,000.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT has created a sensation by selling 250,000 shares of New York Central and Hudson River railroad stock to a syndicate represented by Drexel, Morgan & Co., of New York, and J. S. Morgan & Co., of London, for which he received \$25,000,000 in Government bonds. Edison claims that he has mastered every obstacle in the way of the economical subdivision of electric light, and about Christmas time he will give an exhibition of his light in Menlo Park.

REV. WILLIAM IVES BUDINGTON, the well-known Congregational divine of New York, is dead. A building on Sixth and Market streets, Philadelphia, owned and used as a paper and rag warehouse by Megarge Bros., and also occupied by several other firms, was destroyed by fire a few nights ago. The total losses foot up about \$450,000.

## THE WEST.

ADVISED from Los Pinos Agency to Nov. 25 report that the late "Chief Ouray has miscalculated his power and cannot deliver the murderers of Meeker and Thornburgh if he would. The situation at the agency is far from enviable. Rumors of an impending attack prevail, and the building in which the Commissioners and their escort lodge has been loopholed and provisioned." A fire at Rochester, Minn., burned the Oronoco flouring mills and 30,000 bushels of wheat. Loss, \$80,000. Mr. Sol. A. Smith, President of the Merchants' Savings, Loan and Trust Company Bank of Chicago, died in that city last week. Two German brothers named Eichenand, living in Cass county, Ill., were cruelly murdered, a few days ago, by two brothers named John and Robert Taylor. A feud had for some time existed between the two families.

A SUIT, involving the title to over 164 acres of land on which Leadville is situated, has been decided in the United States District Court in Denver. The suit was brought by a smelting company to eject some squatters from the possession of part of the land, and the decision of the court must have been a stunner to the company. It was to the effect that the land rightly belonged to the United States Government.

TWO INDIANS were recently hanged at Yakima, Washington Territory, for murders committed in the Indian war two years ago.

GEN. GRANT visited Dubuque, where the whole populace turned out to welcome him, on the 1st inst. Reports come from the West that the Mormons are trying to incite the Indians to another uprising.

GEN. JEFF C. DAVIS, of the United States army, died at the Palmer House, in Chicago, a few days ago. Marshal Culver, of Cameron, Mo., was killed a few days ago by a desperado whom he attempted to arrest.

## THE SOUTH.

CURRIE, the desperado who killed Porter in Texas, last winter, has secured another postponement of his trial owing to the inability of the State to produce its witnesses.

MEMPHIS has decided to expend \$225,000 in inaugurating a system of sewerage. A dispatch from San Antonio, Texas, reports that a party of fifteen Texans, who went in pursuit of hostile Indians from El Paso, Texas, were ambushed by the savages in the Camanderia mountains, killing thirteen of the little army. A strong party went out from El Paso to bury the dead and pursue the murderers. While engaged in the first-named duty they were fired upon by the Indians and eighteen of them killed. A portion of the city of Louisville, Ky., was swept by a violent hurricane a few mornings ago. Many buildings were blown down, but no loss of life is reported.

A MAN has just been arrested in Chattanooga for body-snatching, who is shown by the records of the express office to have sent off fourteen boxes within a year, each of which probably contained a body.

## GENERAL.

THE opera-house at Toronto, Canada, a very fine edifice, has been destroyed by fire. Three persons perished in the flames. Army officers at Washington are said to believe that a severe Indian war is impending. Advice from the Northwest state that great uneasiness prevails in the British P. sessions over the attitude of the Indians. Large numbers of them have come to the mounted police agencies, demanding food, and in some instances violence has been threatened. Sitting Bull's tribe has scattered, most of the young men going north in search of food, raiding stores and settlements on the way.

## WASHINGTON.

THE Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice Department has given an opinion to the effect that lottery letters reaching the Dead Letter Office may be returned to the senders, and that a letter must be addressed to a lottery agent as such to warrant its detention. It is said that the President will not nominate Mr. Hamsey for Secretary of War until Mr. McCrary is confirmed as Judge of the Iowa Circuit.

THE last public-debt statement shows a decrease in the national indebtedness for November of \$790,823.

## POLITICAL.

GEN. STEWART L. WOODFORD, of New York, is making Republican speeches in Louisiana. The Indiana Republican State Central Committee has appointed the 25th of February as the day for holding the Republican State Convention.

## FOREIGN.

A CABLE dispatch says that Davitt, one of the Irish agitators arrested for sedition, was arraigned on Nov. 25, and held for trial in bail of £500.

RUSSIA is said to be organizing a plan for the capture of Merv in the spring, by the forcible passage of troops through Persia, if necessary. The National Legislature of France has returned to Paris, after an absence of nine years.

KILLEN, the third of the Irish agitators, arrested for sedition, was committed for further trial at Sligo, on the 28th ult. The accused was offered bail, but refused to furnish it, and was hustled off to jail in the midst of a great uproar. Intelligence comes from Constantinople that Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, the Turkish General, has been massacred by Armenians at Gushinje.

THE nuptials of King Alfonso of Spain and Princess Christine of Austria were celebrated with great pomp at Madrid on the 23rd of November. The Right Hon. John Arthur Roebuck, Liberal member of Parliament for Sheffield, and a prominent political writer, is dead. Reports from several important points in Ireland indicate that a better feeling is prevailing, and there is reason to believe that the culminat-

ing point of the agitation has passed. . . . Yakoub Khan, ex-Ameer of Afghanistan, left Cabul, on the 1st inst., for Peshawur, under the escort of a detachment of the British army.

## CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

The first regular session of the Forty-sixth Congress convened at noon, on Monday, Oct. 1, and a committee was appointed to inform the President and House of Representatives that the Senate was ready for business. President Hayes' message was read, after which the Senate adjourned. The following nominations were sent in for confirmation by the President: George W. McCrary for United States Judge in the Eighth Circuit; Joseph B. Leake for United States District Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois; Charles G. W. French for Chief Justice of Arizona Territory; Norman Buck for Associate Justice in Idaho Territory. . . . On the opening of the House, 233 members answered to their names, showing fifty-six absentees. The new members from Iowa, New York and California took the oath, after which the usual committee to inform the President and the Senate was appointed. After a short recess, the President's message was received and read, when the House adjourned.

## Journalism and Authorship.

During the last thirty years New York journalism has absorbed much of our best talent, and well it might, for it demands the best. No severer test can be applied to a writer than that of his ability to furnish leading articles regularly. More than one, who has succeeded easily as a bookwright or essayist, has found his equipment and his power of composition inadequate to the off-hand production of compact, polished, well-informed leaders, such as are needed for the editorial pages of our great newspapers. Journalism is an art; but under our system it brings little beyond his weekly stipend to the sub-journalist. The stipend is sure, and that means a great deal to one who lives by his pen. Newspapers thus far have supplied the readiest market to a writer, and the magazines next to them. In a chapter upon Hood, London's journalist poet, I have claimed that the task of daily writing for the press, while a good staff, is a poor crutch; it diffuses the heat of authorship, checks idealism, retards the construction of master-pieces. Besides, it brings an author into attrition with members of the craft who passably know him so familiarly as to underrate him. He is subjected to local jealousies, to the over-praise of the newspaper which befriends him, and sometimes to the unjust or ungenerous treatment of rival sheets. All this may be thought an evil peculiar to New York, and one which we shall outgrow. But the same phenomena are visible in the matured newspaper life of the capitals of England and France, and must be accepted as part of a journalist's warfare and surroundings.—Edmund C. Stedman, in Scribner.

## Emperor and Father.

The following incident is related of the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia. Soon after he was assigned to duty as midshipman, his vessel was wrecked off the coast of Denmark. The Admiral commanding resolved to save the young man, and ordered him to take charge of the first boat which put off from the doomed ship. The Grand Duke disdained safety thus bought, and declined.

"My duty is here," he said to the Admiral, "and I must be the last to leave the ship."

"Do you not understand, sir," exclaimed the Admiral, "that you are under my command? and do you dare refuse obedience to my orders?"

"I know my duty," answered the midshipman, "and I will obey any orders you may see fit to give me, except an order to leave the ship, where my duty now commands me to remain."

The Admiral gave up his point, and Alexis was the last man to leave the ship, and, after landing, was promptly ordered under arrest for disobedience of orders. He submitted without a murmur. The Admiral sent dispatches to the Emperor detailing the affair, and the Emperor wrote:

"I approve your having placed the Midshipman Alexis under arrest for disobedience, and I bless my boy for having disobeyed."

## Save the Rags.

"A penny saved is a penny got," is a maxim as true as it is old. And there is many a neglected opportunity in almost every household by which pennies that are otherwise allowed to go to waste might be saved to the family. Take the one item of rags. How few housewives think of saving the little scraps of calico, of linen, and the old, worn-out clothes, and selling them to the paper-manufacturers? Thousands upon thousands of dollars are thus wasted every year that ought to go into the family coffers. If housewives and their children and helpmates would carefully save all the rags through the year, and lay aside the receipts from the sales, they would be astonished, when the holidays came around, at the size of the fund accumulated from this source. The recent rapid advance in the price of rags renders it doubly important that the matter should be attended to. If the "gude wife" don't feel like bothering her head and hands with the matter, then let her encourage the children in the work. It will pay to save the rags. Don't neglect it.

## The Advance in Paper.

The paper-makers seem to have become crazy upon the subject of prices of paper, and are rushing things in a manner most remarkable. Within a period of sixty days the prices of print and book papers have advanced over 50 per cent. Paper that was being sold in September at 6 1/2 cents per pound is now put upon the combination price-list at 10 cents per pound. At a meeting of the Chicago Division of the American Paper-Makers' Association, held in Chicago on Nov. 25, the following prices to dealers were fixed upon: Straw print, . . . . . 80 per pound No. 1 news (20 per cent. wood), . . . 90 per pound No. 2 news (all rag), . . . . . 100 per pound No. 2 book (machine-finished), . . . 110 per pound No. 2 book (super-calendered), . . . 125 per pound These are the manufacturers' prices upon the next meeting of the association, which will occur the latter part of December, at which time another advance of from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cents per pound may be expected.

This year's wheat crop in England, we are told, is the worst on record since 1816.

## METEORIC SHOWERS.

An Eye-Witness' Account of the Display In November, 1833.

[From the Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.] The meteoric display of Nov. 13, 1833, was by very far the most remarkable natural phenomenon I have ever witnessed. The event came unheralded, and took us all by surprise. I was residing at the time in McDonough, Henry county. Suffering at the time from an inflamed eye, and being unable to sleep, I rose about 1 o'clock on the night in question, and went out to my kitchen for the purpose of lighting a lamp (lucifer matches had not then been invented, or had not, at least, come into use in that section). In passing to the kitchen I did not happen to look up; but as soon as our cook (old Aunt Mary) opened the door she drew back in alarm, exclaiming, "Lord, master, the world is coming to an end! Just look at the stars. They are falling!" My faith in the scriptures (such as Matthew xxiv., 14, and others of the same import) precluded the idea of its being the end of the world, and I was not alarmed. Returning to my room, I prepared my wife for viewing the phenomenon, which she did without undue excitement. I then sallied forth to rouse some of my neighbors, that they also might enjoy the wonderful display. The two nearest were a lawyer and a preacher, both of whom were terribly alarmed, and, despite my expostulations, greatly alarmed their wives. Without going further, I had my hands full in endeavoring to restore them to some degree of composure.

From 1 o'clock until daylight I witnessed the grand display. Looking upward, it seemed as the meteors all started from a common center, and fell in curving lines to the very earth, and there were thousands, if not millions, of them in sight at the same moment, until daylight put an end to the scene. It literally rained fire. Sometimes the shower would slacken for a moment or so, and then it would be renewed until the very heavens seemed to be ablaze. Some were brighter, some of paler hue—but they were all fire (or seemed to be so), and all were pouring down toward the earth. But I am attempting to do what I promised myself I would not undertake, to describe a scene which no imagination can conceive, nor tongue nor pen portray. It was as clear a night as I ever saw. I would fix my eyes on a given star, and in a few moments it would seem to fall, owing, I suppose, to the fact that it was obscured by a passing meteor. The illusion was perfect.

For two or three days after the occurrence the atmosphere was so smoky as to prevent the stars from being seen at night, and to cause the sun to look like a ball of fire in the daytime, upon which one might gaze with the naked eye without pain.

A few occurrences connected with the event may interest your readers. In Covington, Newton county, at 2 o'clock, the church-bell was rung and the whole population was aroused, who repaired to the meeting-house and spent the remainder of the night in devotional exercises.

The gold mines in Faulding and adjacent counties had drawn together many adventurers—miners and gamblers. A gentleman direct from that section informed me that soon after midnight guns were fired, horns blown, and the sleepers for miles were aroused. The gamblers threw their cards in the fire, enemies made friends, and there was such praying as was never heard in that section before, and perhaps has never been heard since.

Only a few days after the phenomenon I was passing from McDonough to Zebulon, and stopped to spend the night with a friend. He had two Northern men employed in erecting a mill on a small stream near his residence, the elder one of whom had been a seafaring man. As soon as I arrived, the "falling of the stars" became the subject of conversation. Seeing the Northern men coming up the hill, my friend said: "Engage those men—especially the elder one—in conversation on the subject." Supper over, I managed to draw them out. The older one said: "I have spent most of my life on the sea, and have passed through many dangers. But I never had to look death and eternity so squarely in the face before. You know, parson, that sailors believe in the North star. Well, I saw that the other stars were falling, but I thought that as long as the North star kept its place all was safe. So I went out there and sat on the ground, with my back against the chimney (it was a rock chimney), and then I watched that star, trying not even to wink. In a few minutes it cut loose, and here it came. And then, parson, I fell on my knees and did some of the tallest praying you ever heard, and I have not sworn an oath since." I have seen many people since who have waited for the North star to fall before they would pray.

## A True Republican.

M. Grevy, President of the French republic, is one of the most unostentatious and good-humored of men. Although always a well-dressed man, he would insist on wearing a soft, black felt waist-coat, till he became Chief of the state, when his constitutional advisers made it a Cabinet question that he should invest in a tall hat. He gave in with a sigh. They tell an anecdote of him that is quite characteristic. Unlike most official Frenchmen, he believes enough in his own country to invest in her funds, and the other day went to the Bank of France to receive his dividends. He was already President of the republic, yet he quietly placed himself in the queue and waited his turn, sand-

wich between a petty employe and a green-grocer's wife. Suddenly a high official of the bank espied him, but was scarcely able to believe his own eyes, and when he did almost fainted with horror. The President was forthwith accosted with all honors, and hidden to quit the queue, that his money might be paid him at once. "Many thanks," he answered, "but I really don't mind waiting." And the Chief Magistrate of the republic—a true liberal in every sense of that word—quietly bided his time. The humblest citizen was not to lose a moment of time on his account.

## THE VANDERBILT-GOULD COMBINATION.

[From the Chicago Tribune.] The Vanderbilt-Gould combination of railroad interests seems to have become complete. The New York Central system of railways, heretofore ruled absolutely by the Vanderbilt family, has passed from the proprietary control of that family into a most diversified ownership. The Pennsylvania road, with its more than 2,000 miles of Western leased lines; the New York and Erie, with its Western attachments; the New York Central and Lake Shore, with their Western combinations; the Wabash, the Union Pacific, the Kansas Pacific, and the Missouri and Texas extensions, have all become, so far as an outsider can discover, combined under one general and mixed proprietorship, so intimate and connected that the same dozen persons might compose the Directors of all the companies. Vanderbilt has purchased into Erie, Gould has purchased stock in the New York Central and various Western lines, and the Pennsylvanians have invested millions in the New York railways.

The public are interested in all these matters only so far as they threaten a railroad supremacy and a railroad mastery of the trade of the country. Vanderbilt speaks of yielding the objectionable "one-man power" heretofore exercised by him over a single trunk line. Has there been any such surrender as will afford deliverance to the public? It seems to us as if this change means nothing more nor less than the consolidation of the entire railroad interest in the United States, with all its capital, all its debts, all its patronage, all its corrupting and dishonest influences, to defy the country and prevent the enactment of any law by Congress regulating rates and punishing discriminations.

That battle has been fought in the States and in the courts, and has been determined in favor of popular right and in establishing the power of the Legislature; but the battle is only half fought and half won. The railroad combination that carries freight from Chicago to New York at 8 cents per 100 pounds one day and demands 45 cents the next day, and can make violent changes with impunity—which may carry freight 1,200 miles at 20 cents per 100 pounds, and exact 60 cents per 100 pounds for moving like freight 500 miles—exercises a power that is despotic of itself and which is exercised to the ruin of the producers. The rates of freight from Chicago to New York have been advanced from 15 to 40 cents per 100 pounds since June, thereby robbing the producers of the grain districts of nearly the entire advance in the prices of grain, and transferring it to the railroad managers to be apportioned among the holders of so-called stock of bankrupt railroad corporations. The Vanderbilt-Gould combination, for such it unquestionably is, promises no relief to the American people. It is a league to defeat any legislation by Congress on the subject of regulating the rates of transportation. The interests of the producers of the country demand certain legal regulations: 1. Establishing a maximum rate of transportation. 2. The prohibition of discriminations whereby through freight shall not be charged as now more per 100 pounds for moving 500 miles than for moving it 1,000 miles. 3. That rates of freight once established shall not be changed except at stated periods, and then only after due notice. The interests of the country demand that tolls shall be reasonable and shall have some degree of permanency, and that no point shall be discriminated against or be favored.

To the present session of Congress, on the eve of a general election for President, and for an entire House of Congress, and for State Legislatures that shall choose one-third of the Senate, the people will look for legislation on this subject. It is a matter of millions to the producing class. The arbitrary rise in railroad freights between July and October, which rise is now in force, has taken directly from the producers of grain and provisions, and out of the legitimate advance in the value of the fruits of their labor, enough money to have paid the principal of all the mortgaged debts now incumbering the farming lands of the Northwest. The spoliation has been immense, and the despoiled have no remedy other than an appeal to their representatives in Congress to apply such regulation as will prevent the repetition of this kind of robbery hereafter.

It is to control Congress, it is to prevent such legislation, it is to perpetuate the power to work such robbery, that has led to this fusion and combination of interests on the part of the railroad managers, disclosed by the seeming surrender of Vanderbilt and his conjunction with Gould.

THERE are in California 150,000 goats, and in the Pacific Territories 50,000, making a total of 200,000 on the Pacific slope.

## Exact Justice.

There is a famous case on the books of a Norman hotel-keeper and the customer who ordered a six-egg omelette prepared, but went away in a hurry without paying for it, and when he returned, fifteen years later, offered the landlord 6 francs, being for the original cost of the eggs and the interest thereon compounded. The landlord claimed a fabulous sum, alleging that the six eggs would have produced so many chicks, from which would have issued so many hens; that, with the product of these innumerable fowls, he would have bought a farm, which, in so many years, would have yielded so much money, which, being invested, etc., etc. The court, however, non-suited the landlord because the eggs had been broken for the omelette, and so could not have been hatched.

This case has been outdone in an Indian court. A, B, C and D buy cotton in partnership, and store it in a warehouse which is infested with rats. To discourage these vermin they buy a cat, of which each is to own a leg. The cat breaks that one of her legs which is owned by A, who binds it up with cotton soaked in oil. The wrappings take fire, the cat takes refuge in the midst of the cotton bales, and the whole property is destroyed; whereupon B, C and D sue A, alleging that it was his leg which caused the conflagration. The court promptly decides against them with costs, and orders them to pay A for his cotton, and bear their own losses, on the ground that the cat couldn't walk on the broken leg, so that it was the three sound legs which carried her into the cotton.

## Teachers and Task-Masters.

The public have not held teachers to their true responsibility. We send a young lad or a young girl to school, and find that, while we are paying out a great deal of money for them, they are gaining nothing. We complain, and are informed that our children are not industrious, that they do not seem interested in their studies, that they are absorbed in play, etc., etc. In ninety-nine cases in 100, our disappointment is entirely the fault of the teacher. He or she is simply incompetent for the duty they have undertaken. A first-class teacher always has good pupils. Lack of interest in study is always the result of poor teaching. We send a boy to college, and find that he regards his studies as a grind—that he is only interested in getting good marks, and that he is getting no scholarly tastes, and winning no scholarly delights. We inquire, and find him in the hands of a young tutor, without experience, who really pretends to be no more than a task-master, and who knows nothing, and seems to care nothing, about the office of teaching. The placing of large masses of young men in the hands of inexperienced persons, who do not pretend to do more than to set tasks and record the manner in which they are performed, without guidance or assistance, is a gross imposition of the college upon a trusting public, and it is high time that an outcry so determined and persistent is raised against it that it shall procure a reform.—Dr. J. G. Holland, in Scribner's Monthly.

DURING 1878 the Onondaga salt works produced, in the aggregate, 7,127,197 bushels. Up to date this year the yield is 7,276,072 bushels, and there is no doubt that the production of the entire year will be very near 9,000,000 bushels, an increase of almost 2,000,000 bushels over last year, and nearly equal to the largest yield in the history of the trade.

THE cost of keeping cattle per year in Texas is \$1.50 per head, or \$1,500 per 1,000.

## THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.			
BEANS.....	75	25	@ 10 25
HOGS.....	4 00		@ 6 25
COTTON.....	12 1/2		@ 12 1/2
WHEAT—Superfine.....	5 00		@ 5 50
WHEAT—No. 2.....	1 35		@ 1 41
CORN—Western Mixed.....	57		@ 61
OATS—Mixed.....	45		@ 47
RYE—Western.....	90		@ 91
PORK—Mess.....	11 20		@ 11 50
LARD.....	7 1/4		@ 7 1/2
CHICAGO.			
BEANS—Choice Graded Steers.....	4 50		@ 4 90
Cows and Heifers.....	2 25		@ 2 50
Medium to Fair.....	3 75		@ 4 00
HOGS.....	3 80		@ 4 10
WHEAT—Fancy White Winter Ex.....	6 50		@ 7 00
Good to Choice Spring Ex.....	5 75		@ 6 00
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring.....	1 10		@ 1 15
CORN—No. 2.....	40		@ 41
OATS—No. 2.....	32		@ 33
RYE—No. 2.....	72		@ 74
BARLEY—No. 2.....	81		@ 83
BUTTER—Choice Creamery.....	33		@ 35
EGGS—Fresh.....	20		@ 22
PORK—Mess.....	10 50		@ 11 00
LARD.....	6 1/4		@ 6 1/2
MILWAUKEE.			
WHEAT—No. 1.....	1 21		@ 1 22
No. 2.....	1 19		@ 1 20
CORN—No. 2.....	39		@ 40
OATS—No. 2.....	32		@ 33
RYE—No. 1.....	71		@ 72
BARLEY—No. 2.....	72		@ 73
ST. LOUIS.			
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Fall.....	1 20		@ 1 30
CORN—Mixed.....	38		@ 39
OATS—No. 2.....	32		@ 33
RYE.....	72		@ 74
PORK—Mess.....	10 75		@ 10 87 1/2
LARD.....	6 1/4		@ 6 1/2
CINCINNATI.			
WHEAT.....	1 28		@ 1 30
CORN.....	40		@ 43
OATS.....	34		@ 35
RYE.....	74		@ 75
PORK—Mess.....	11 50		@ 12 00
LARD.....	6 1/4		@ 6 1/2
TOLEDO.			
WHEAT—Amber Michigan.....	1 31		@ 1 32
No. 2 Red.....	1 29		@ 1 30
CORN—No. 2.....	43		@ 45
OATS—No. 2.....	33		@ 34
DETROIT.			
WHEAT—Choice.....	6 25		@ 7 25
WHEAT—No. 1 White.....	1 30		@ 1 31
No. 1 Amber.....	1 29		@ 1 30
CORN—No. 1.....	43		@ 45
OATS—Mixed.....	36		@ 37
BARLEY (per cental).....	1 30		@ 1 50
PORK—Mess.....	11 00		@ 11 75
EAST LIBERTY, PA.			
CATTLE—Best.....	4 75		@ 5 00
Fair.....	4 00		@ 4 25
Common.....	3 00		@ 3 50
HOGS.....	3 00		@ 3 25
SHEEP.....	3 00		@ 3 50







